

Health and Wellbeing Board

8 November 2017

Annual Report of the Independent Chair of City of York Safeguarding Children Board (CYSCB)

Summary

1. The purpose of this report is to present the Annual Report of the Independent Chair of City of York Safeguarding Children Board 2016/17 (Annex A) to the Health and Wellbeing Board (HWBB). This provides an opportunity to share the key issues and priorities for CYSCB with the HWBB. (An Executive Summary of the Annual Report is also made available to the Health & Wellbeing Board at Annex B).

Background

2. The Independent Chair of the Safeguarding Children Board is required by statutory guidance to publish an annual report on the effectiveness of child safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children in the local area. The report is submitted to the Chief Executive, Leader of the Council, the local Police and Crime Commissioner and the Chair of the Health and Wellbeing Board.
3. The City of York Safeguarding Children Board has the statutory objective set out in Section 14 of the Children Act 2004 *to coordinate what is done by each person or body represented on the Board for the purposes of safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children in the area; and to ensure the effectiveness of what is done by each such person or body for those purposes*
4. To provide effective scrutiny, the CYSCB should be independent. It should not be subordinate to, nor subsumed within, other local structures.

Main/Key Issues to be Considered

5. In order to achieve the best outcomes, it is critical that all Boards work closely together to drive forward improvements in prevention, early help and ensuring local safeguarding arrangements are effective. The Inter-Board Protocol is now agreed in full and encompasses the work of the Health and Wellbeing Board; the Safeguarding Adults Board; the YorOk Board; and the Safer York Partnership.
6. The Chairs of these strategic boards meet regularly to ensure good collaboration and cooperation between the Boards and an absence of unnecessary duplication. The operational support officers for each Board meet to facilitate and take forward the agreed work of the Chairs' group.

Consultation

7. CYSCB partners have been consulted in the process of compiling the Annual Report and key partners have contributed accounts of the actions their organisations have undertaken during 2016/17 to safeguard children. These accounts have been included in full in the Annual Report.

Options

8. The CYSCB Annual Report is presented to enable the HWBB to note the key messages and priorities in regard to safeguarding children and young people.

Analysis

9. The key messages and priorities set out in the CYSCB Annual Report should be helpful when HWBB members are looking at future health and wellbeing priorities and plans.

Strategic/Operational Plans

10. The publication of a Local Safeguarding Children Board (LSCB) Annual Report is a statutory requirement of the Working Together 2015 guidance.
11. Outlined in the Report is the CYSCB's intention to respond to the changes brought about in the Children & Social Work Act 2017 which abolishes LSCBs and replaces them with local partnerships

for coordinating and monitoring the arrangements for safeguarding of children and young people. While CYSCB awaits a newly published Working Together later this year which will give more detail to the statutory requirements, Board members have already met to discuss the opportunity for reviewing and amending the functioning of the Board. A proposal will be put to chief officers via the Chief Officers Reference and Accountability Group (CORAG) for a new safeguarding partnership with the strong caveat that, having been judged as 'Outstanding' by Ofsted, there will be no changes made simply for changes' sake.

12. A key objective of the Health and Wellbeing Strategy, under *Starting and Growing Well*, includes the aim to 'Ensure children and young people are free from all forms of neglect and abuse'. The CYSCB has a significant role to play in contributing to this objective. Member organisations of the Health and Wellbeing Board and the YorOk Board are represented on the Safeguarding Board. The Inter-Board Protocol ensures that the priorities and plans of the key strategic Boards are complementary and mutually supportive.

Implications

13. **Financial:** It is not clear at this stage whether there will be any financial implications in the wake of the new statutory guidance. The Board is currently funded by partners and there is no intention currently to change that arrangement. Should the arrangement change this could pose a potential risk to the functioning of, and support to, the Board.
14. **Human Resources (HR):** There are no HR implications posed as a direct result of the CYSCB Annual Report nor, at this stage, by the Children & Social Work Act 2017.
15. **Equalities:** There are no equalities implications to be considered.
16. **Legal:** There are no legal implications to be considered.
17. **Crime and Disorder:** There are no crime and disorder implications to be considered
18. **Information Technology (IT):** There are no IT implications to be considered

19. **Property:** There are no property implications to be considered
20. **Other:** There are no other known implications.

Risk Management

21. There are no direct risks associated with the CYSCB Annual Report. Presentation of this report to the Health & Wellbeing Board plus the existence of the Inter-Board Protocol should mitigate against the risk of any absence if joined up thinking and collaboration to ensure that 'Safeguarding is everybody's business'

Recommendations

22. The Health and Wellbeing Board members are asked to receive the Annual Report of the Independent Chair of the CYSCB and reflect on the key messages and priorities when considering plans.

Reason: Communication between Boards and an understanding of each Board's key messages and priorities enhances collaborative work and optimum outcomes.

Contact Details

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**Report
Approved**



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Specialist Implications Officer(s) none

Wards Affected:

All

For further information please contact the author of the report

Background Papers:

Background papers

None

Annexes

Annex A – CYSCB Full Annual Report 2016-17

Annex B – Executive Summary Annual Report 2016-17

Glossary

CYSCB	City of York Safeguarding Children Board
HWBB	Health and Wellbeing Board
LSCB	Local Safeguarding Children Board
YorOK	York Children's Trust
CORAG	Chief Officers Reference and Accountability Group (Safeguarding)